

And that's just as a lieutenant and captain.

As a sergeant, he served as a Patrol Field Supervisor, Field Training Program Manager, and Detective Supervisor. As an officer, he served as a Patrol Officer, Traffic Officer, Field Training Officer, Rangemaster, Academy Staff Officer, Planning and Research Officer, and Background Investigator.

Mark earned a bachelor's degree from California State University, Northridge, and is a graduate of POST Command College Class #26, Simi Valley Leadership Class of 1999, and the 2004 POST Executive Development Course. In his spare time, he serves as a member of the Simi Sunrise Rotary and is a board member of the Simi Valley Education Foundation and the Simi Valley Police Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in thanking my friend Mark Layhew for his decades of service to the City of Simi Valley and his country, and in wishing him, his wife, Holly, and their children Godspeed.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO KEVIN PAGE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kevin Page for earning the Distinguished Nevadan Award, the most prestigious award given by the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents. The award recognizes the achievements of those who have contributed to the cultural, scientific, or social advancement of Nevada.

Kevin has had an impressive academic career, graduating from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas with a bachelor's degree in finance in 1986 and an MBA one year later. He continued his involvement with UNLV through 2005 as a member of the Alumni Board, and served as board president for three of those years.

As a founding member of the Police and Fire Emerald Society of Nevada, he has been committed to helping children and youth succeed, caring for families in need, and honoring fallen heroes. From 2001 to 2004, he led Run for Heroes in raising scholarship money for the families of fallen law enforcement members and fire fighters, and helped shift some of that fundraising to the Golf for Heroes program in 2004.

Kevin's interest in helping students goes beyond the families of law enforcement and fire officials. Through his Kiwanis Club membership, he has raised more scholarship money for high school Key Clubs and to support Clark County School District Varsity Quiz programs.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Kevin Page, winner of the Distinguished Nevadan Award and dedicated volunteer. His fundraising efforts and foundation of the Emerald Society have made a tremendous impact on the Las Vegas community.

TRIBUTE TO MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to congratulate Montgomery County, Maryland, on being recognized for the third straight year by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Green Power Partnership as one of the Nation's top ten local government green power purchasers.

For many years, Montgomery County has set a precedent for the consumption of renewable energy sources. Its buying group, which is now at the forefront of an innovative and unique wind energy purchase, was noted by the EPA as one of the top 25 largest national purchasers of green power. Its pioneering purchases have promoted a cleaner and more environmentally-safe approach to energy consumption in our community. Furthermore, this purchase also represents the Nation's first effort on the part of a local government to include renewable energy in the State's plan to implement air quality improvements under the federal Clean Air Act.

Montgomery County has long been a leader in the field of clean energy. In 2004, under Montgomery County Executive Douglas M. Duncan's leadership, the County began purchasing five percent of its energy from wind. In April 2006, County Executive Duncan and the County Council committed to increasing the County's renewable energy purchase to 20 percent of its total electricity use over the next 5 years. Significantly, Montgomery County has been actively encouraging residents to join these efforts by purchasing clean energy for their homes, businesses, and community organizations.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting Montgomery County, Maryland, for its groundbreaking commitment to increasing the overall consumption of renewable energy sources now and in the years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARIE McMILLAN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marie Stever Daly McMillan for earning the Distinguished Nevadan Award, the most prestigious award given by the Nevada System of Higher Education Board of Regents. The award recognizes achievements of those who have contributed to the cultural, scientific, or social advancement of Nevada.

In 1957, Marie and her husband, Duke Daly, moved to Nevada to work at the Nevada Test Site during the pioneering nuclear testing era, and developed and implemented protocols for the management of classified documents. Her work in this capacity was vital, as the nuclear information had to be kept secret, but still available to the scientists working on the projects.

Although her work to preserve the confidentiality of nuclear secrets was important, her

aviation career is what she is best known for. In 1978, Marie learned that the U.S. Aeronautic Association was looking for pilots to break records in honor of the 75th anniversary of the Wright brothers' flight. She decided not to break a record, but to set a new one. On December 16, 1978, she set her first record for speed between two cities. Over the next 10 years, Marie set hundreds more, and she currently holds 656 aviation records.

In addition to setting records, Marie has served as the U.S. Delegate to numerous Federation Aeronautique International Conferences, and she has won many awards and honors. She served as a flight instructor for over 25 years, where she taught people, from teenagers and Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Officers, how to fly. She also served for 10 years as Clark County Department of Aviation public information representative to McCarran Airport, where she had the opportunity to teach schoolchildren about aviation careers.

Dedicated to encouraging young women to pursue careers in aviation and technical fields, Marie has developed a local "Wings" program as a part of the Girl Scouts. She also has devoted countless hours and her plane to carry medical personnel and supplies to Mexico and, through Wings for Direct Relief, transported supplies to California so they could be shipped to South America.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Marie McMillan, winner of the Distinguished Nevadan Award and aviation pioneer. I commend her dedication to the community, which exemplifies her strong character, innovation, leadership, and service.

HONORING THE ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 25, 2006

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 384, a resolution recognizing and honoring the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, the first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for African Americans.

Since its founding on December 4, 1906, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., has provided voice, vision, and pride to the struggle of African-Americans and persons of African descent around the globe.

Alpha Phi Alpha, was founded at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York, by seven college men who recognized the need for a strong bond of brotherhood among African descendants in this country. The visionary founders, known as the "Jewels" of the fraternity, are Henry Arthur Callis, Charles Henry Chapman, Eugene Kinckle Jones, George Biddle Kelley, Nathaniel Allison Murray, Robert Harold Ogle, and Vertner Woodson Tandy.

The fraternity initially served as a study and support group for minority students who faced racial prejudice, both educationally and socially, at Cornell. Alpha Phi Alpha chapters quickly spread to other colleges and universities, many of them historically black institutions, soon after the founding at Cornell. While

continuing to stress academic excellence among its members, Alpha also recognized the need to help correct the educational, economic, political, and social injustices faced by African-Americans and persons of African descent around the world.

The Jewel founders and early leaders of the fraternity succeeded in laying a firm foundation for Alpha Phi Alpha's principles of scholarship, fellowship, good character, and the uplifting of humanity. These principles of this organization hold true to this very day.

Alpha Phi Alpha has long stood at the forefront of the African-American community's fight for civil rights through leaders such as: W.E.B. DuBois, Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., Edward Brooke, Martin Luther King, Jr., Thurgood Marshall, Andrew Young, William Gray, and Paul Robeson.

For almost a century, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, and all the "Brothers of the Black & Old Gold," the official colors of the fraternity, have continuously served their community, country, people, and each other in a manner that is befitting of an organization of such character, dignity, and commitment. I, too, am a proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha, and it is an honor to be a part of an organization with such a rich legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution recognizing and honoring the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated, the first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for African Americans. Please vote in support of H. Con. Res. 384.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ALISON
KASNER

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my dear friend Alison Kasner for her dedication to education and for her outstanding service to southern Nevada.

Alison has served as the principal of Helen J. Stewart School for the past 5 years and is retiring this summer from a distinguished career with the Clark County School District. She began teaching school in southern Nevada at the age of 20. During her career, Alison served the school district in a variety of capacities. She has taught elementary through high school age students and also served as a transitional counselor before becoming principal at Helen J. Stewart School.

Although Alison Kasner has devoted a great deal of her life to education, what is perhaps most impressive about her is her dedication to special needs students. Helen J. Stewart School is a very special school within the Clark County School District that serves the educational needs of students between the ages of 6 and 22 who have significant mental and developmental challenges. The school's mission is to provide an education specifically tailored to the needs of its students so that all students have the opportunity to reach optimum development and become as self-sufficient as possible.

Alison first became acquainted with Stewart School and its mission after visiting the campus on a field trip her freshman year of high

school. As a result of that experience, Alison volunteered at Helen J. Stewart throughout high school and remained involved with the school throughout her career. Since becoming principal of the school, Alison has served her students and her colleagues with vision, determination and a commitment to achieving excellence. Her compassion for others, her desire to serve and her enthusiasm for special education has made an indelible impact on our community.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Alison Kasner for her service as an educator and for her dedication to special needs students. Although she will certainly be missed at Helen J. Stewart School, I know that she will continue to contribute her time, talent, and perspective in ways that will benefit and enrich the world around her. I wish Alison the very best in her retirement and in all her future endeavors.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 5684, UNITED STATES-
OMAN FREE TRADE AGREEMENT
IMPLEMENTATION ACT.

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 20, 2006

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I oppose the Oman Free Trade Agreement (OFTA).

The Bush administration has again presented the Congress with a flawed trade agreement. I support vigorous international trade, but it should also be fair trade.

The inadequate labor provisions in this agreement are almost identical to those contained in the flawed Dominican Republic-Central American Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA), which I opposed. After the contentious vote on DR-CAFTA, the United States Trade Representative said he would address the concerns we raised in future agreements. Unfortunately nothing has changed.

OFTA does little to improve the poor protection for workers in Oman. The labor provisions in this trade agreement are lackluster, and will be very hard to enforce. This trade agreement asks Oman only to meet the lowest possible dominator of labor law. We can and we must do better.

Currently, Oman labor laws do not provide for the freedom to associate or the rights to organize and bargain collectively, the most fundamental of workers rights. There are no protections for workers who want to strike in Oman, and there are no independent unions. Oman has said it will change, but it does not have to. These promises should be included as requirements in this agreement, not in unenforceable side letters.

As I have said before, international trade is not just inevitable, it is a good thing. It has enormous potential to raise standards across the globe, disseminate technology and encourage economic growth. But lowering the cost of goods and increasing their availability is not the single goal of trade. Trade should also lift the global standard of living. Trade agreements are not just about goods and commodities; they are also about what constitutes acceptable behavior in workers' rights, environmental matters, intellectual property, and so forth. We should make sure we export the

goods we produce and not the workers who produce them. Like the DR-CAFTA and Bahrain Free Trade Agreements, the Oman Free Trade Agreement does not pass these tests. The agreement before us fails both parties: it will not help either America's or Oman's workers.

Each new trade agreement entered into by the United States ought to be closely scrutinized, and ought to include the strongest enforceable worker rights and environmental safeguards attainable. We know how to craft such agreements, for example the U.S.-Jordan Agreement of 2000 was a fair and good agreement. Unfortunately, the Bush Administration has abandoned that successful format and pushed ahead with a trade policy that only looks at the bottom line, rather than the workers who produced the goods or the environment they live in and rely upon for sustainable growth.

We need to go back to the successful format that incorporates American values into our trade agreements. This would ensure that U.S. companies and employees are not forced to compete with countries that have no or weak labor laws, poor working conditions, and a willingness to debase the environment for the short term. The people of all countries lose in such a "race to the bottom".

Mr. Speaker, I cannot support OFTA or other flawed trade agreements.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHARLES
KENNY LEAVITT

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my good friend for more than 20 years, Charles "Charlie" Leavitt. Charlie will be retiring from a career in general engineering contracting on August 15, 2006.

Charlie was born on "the old Stewart Ranch" in Las Vegas, Nevada, on August 24, 1942. His class of 1960 was Rancho High School's first graduating class. After graduation, he worked as a parking attendant for many of the hotel and casinos up and down the Las Vegas Strip, including the Stardust Hotel and the Dunes Hotel and Casino, which is now the Bellagio Hotel and Casino. He then went to work on the Virgin River Gorge Project as an engineer. This project provides a transportation route from Las Vegas, through Arizona, and into Utah.

In 1974, Charlie joined the Warrants Division of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department and served until 1979. He then went to the Caesar's Palace Hotel and Casino as a doorman and parking attendant. After running the front of that hotel for many years, he, along with his brother and nephews, moved to the Tropicana Hotel to help with their failing parking situation.

After marrying the love of his life Margaret "Peggy" on March 16, 1984, he started his own excavation company called Charles K. Leavitt Excavation in 1987, now known as CLK Incorporated. CLK Inc. serves the Las Vegas, Henderson, and Boulder City areas.

Charlie is very active in the community, serving in the Sunrise Rotary, and has served in many leadership positions in the Church of